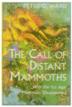
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The Call of Distant Mammoths: Why the Ice Age Mammals Disappeared—Peter D. Ward. What happened to the spotted mastodons, condors, and sabertoothed tigers that wandered the area now known as Los Angeles some 12,000 year ago? The prevailing theories among paleontol-

ogists invoke climate change and human hunting. Ward opts for the latter. Noting that the arrival of humans has been detrimental to many species around the globe, he argues that extinctions occur catastrophically rather than gradually—a concept that alters our understanding of evolution. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Copernicus, 1998, 241 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$15.00.



Edison: A Life of Invention—Paul Israel. Unlike Neil Baldwin's recent, more personal biography of the inventor under the same title, Israel's book concentrates on Edison's professional life. Edison's legacy includes nearly five million pages of documentation. As curator of these papers at Rutgers Uni-

versity, Israel is deeply familiar with the progression of Edison's work. He capably shows how Edison saw his concepts become commercially viable commodities that led to the inception of General Electric and movie-making. Wiley, 1998, 552 p., illus./photos, hardcover, \$30.00.



Glass: From the First Mirror to Fiber Optics, The Story of the Substance That Changed the World—William S. Ellis. According to the writings of Pliny the Elder, glass was invented when a group of Phoenician seamen accidentally mingled an ancient embalming element with fire and

sand. This tale prefaces Ellis' tour of the aesthetic and practical applications of glass. He explains how glass windshields in jets can withstand the forces of air pressure, why imperfections are not tolerated in Waterford crystal, and how glass beat out copper in modern-day communication devices. Avon, 1998, 306 p., color plates, hardcover, \$25.00.



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Hubble Revisited: New Images From the Discovery Machine—Daniel Fischer and Hilmar Duerbeck. In this sequel to *Hubble*, Fischer and Hilmar update the astrophysical accomplish-

ments of the space telescope that is trolling the outer limits of our solar system. For those who missed the initial installment, an overview of Hubble's history prefaces the volume. Then the authors present an extraordinary array of telling pictures amassed during the past 3 years, especially since the updating of the imaging system in 1997. Along the way, they detail how these images have generated new clues about the formation of planets, the existence of black holes, and the production of ozone on the Jovian moon Ganymede. Copernicus, 1998, 216 p., color photos, hardcover, \$40.00.



One Renegade Cell: How Cancer Begins—Robert A. Weinberg. Normal cells are pretty much autonomous, although the coordinated behavior of the unit is needed for the orderly existence of the organism. The initial cancer cell is a sort of Jesus character. First, it decides to branch off and begin its own growth program.

Then, it spawns a "vast horde of like-minded descendants... cast in the image of their renegade ancestor." Weinberg, an oncology researcher, succinctly relates how this happens. He elucidates aberrations in a cell's DNA that cause chaos in the cell's ability to grow and function properly. Basic, 1998, 170 p., hard-cover. \$21.00.



This New Ocean: The Story of the First Space Age—William E. Burrows. In this tome, science-writer Burrows aims to provide the definitive history of post—Cold War space exploration and does an admirable job. He begins with "Bird Envy," about the dreams of the Greeks to fly, and swiftly moves into a

chronicle of the earliest rockets and how their propulsion launched higher ambitions. Using declassified U.S. and Soviet documents as sources he details infighting on both the Soviet and U.S. sides. He reveals underhanded operations so numerous that one marvels at how any man walked on the moon. While others project gloom, Burrows' verve for the future of space exploration is strong. Random, 1998, 723 p., b&w plates, hardcover, \$34.95.



The Writer's Legal Companion—Brad Bunnin and Peter Beren. Now in its third edition this guide provides authors with a working knowledge of libel law, copyright legalities, publishing contracts, and tax considerations (for freelancers). Among the updated

sections are those dealing with issues involving electronic publishing. The authors include tips for marketing a book and working with an agent, as well. Perseus, 1998, 354 p., paperback, \$18.50.



Zarafa: A Giraffe's True Story, From Deep in Africa to the Heart Of Paris—Michael Allin. In 1826, a novel creature arrived in France—a giraffe Allin calls Zarafa. A gift to King Charles X from the Ottoman viceroy of Egypt Muhammad Ali, Zarafa was bestowed in the hope of dissuading the King from intervention in a Greek war. In the

final leg of the giraffe's 2-year-long journey, she was walked the 550 miles from the Mediterranean Sea to Paris. Legend and folklore surround Zarafa, but with the discovery of Muhammad Ali's amazingly comprehensive archives, the story has since become more complete. Allin retraces Zarafa's journey and her legacy in an age of scientific enlightenment. Walker, 1998, 215 p., illus., hardcover, \$22.00.

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